



Stone Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1964

STONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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For the year 1964

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To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1964 which has been prepared in accordance with Circular 1/65 of the Ministry of Health.

During 1964 the duties of Medical Officer of Health were carried out by Dr. F. J. Murray until his retirement in June and then by Dr. C. Arthur who is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health at other times. I commenced duty on 1st November for the remainder of the year and therefore only two months of this report is actually concerned with my term of office.

The report is in the main a statistical presentation of the health of the district, and immediately following are some features of the report:-

Population: The population for the Rural District in mid 1964 was 18,950 which is a decrease of 180 over 1963.

Births: The number of live births for the year has decreased to 311 - a decrease of 2 over 1963. This gives a live birth rate for the area of 16.42, England and Wales 18.4.

Deaths: The number of deaths from all causes amounted to 190 - an increase of 8 over 1963. This gives a death rate for the area of 10.02, England and Wales 11.3. The number of children who died in 1964 under the age of one was 5 which is a decrease of 1 over 1963.

Coronary Diseases and Angina: The total number of cases of coronary disease and angina amounted to 24. It will be noted that this is one of the highest causes of death as is also diseases of the respiratory system, including malignant neoplasm of lung and bronchus, and bronchitis.

Motor Accidents: The number of fatalities was 2.

National Assistance Act: No action was taken under the Act during the year.

Continued.

Infectious Diseases: The number of infectious diseases notified during the year amounted to 129.

No serious epidemics have occurred in the year which has been unexceptional in most respects.

May I apologise for the tardy appearance of this report and record my thanks to the staff of the Department for their willing help in its preparation and to the Members of the Council for their continued interest in public health matters.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C. R. B. BAMFORD

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1964

<u>Chairman:</u>	Councillor H. T. Walton
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	" W. R. G. Lawrence
<u>Other Members:</u>	" A. Bartlett
	" L. Brewer
	" Mrs. F. S. Dainton
	" B. J. Davies
	" Mrs. R. M. Dickson
	" J. K. Evans
	" S. T. Gartland
	" Rev. G. F. Greenup
	" G. H. Harris
	" H. Hine
	" F. Hulme
	" C. Jackson
	" G. L. Jacques
	" Dr. A. S. Law
	" W. S. Lindley
	" Mrs. F. Matthews
	" W. Potter
	" Mrs. L. A. Sadler
	" A. M. Timmis
	" Mrs. F. Wain
	" E. G. Whiteman
	" R. D. Wilkinson
	" L. J. Willdigg
	" G. A. H. Williams
	" F. D. Wood.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS FOR THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health

F. J. Murray, L.R.S.I., L.R.P.I., L.M., D.P.H.
(retired 30.6.64)

C. R. B. Bamford, M.B., B.S. (Durham), D.P.H.
(commenced 1.11.64)

Acting Medical Officer of Health 1.7.64. - 31.10.64. Also
Deputy Medical Officer of Health

C. Arthur, M.B., B.C.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor

B. K. Lovatt, M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.
Certified Meat & Food Inspector

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

Miss E. E. Freakley, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.
Certified Meat & Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector

M. H. Jackson, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.
Certified Meat & Food Inspector
(commenced 4.5.64)

Pupil Public Health Inspector

C. Gaskin

Clerks

E. J. Bevan
Miss J. M. Williams

A. PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

. Domiciliary Nursing and General Practitionery Services

District Nurses and health visiting services are provided by the County Council under the administration of the Stafford Area Health Committee. Family doctor services are supplied in the main by five general practitioners in the Rural District, and by others resident in adjacent districts.

Hospital Services

When required, cases of infectious diseases are admitted to Bucknall Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent.

Out-patients and general hospital services are provided at the Stafford General Infirmary and the North Stafford Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent. Aged and chronic sick cases are accommodated at Trent Hospital, Stone for treatment and Part III accommodation if required.

Yarnfield Hospital which was formally the infectious diseases hospital for the district admits convalescent cases from the Stafford General Infirmary and other hospitals in the region.

In the district are also Groundslow Hospital for convalescent and maternity cases, Standon Hall Orthopaedic Hospital and Stallington Hall Hospital for the mentally sub-normal which is within the Stoke-on-Trent hospital group.

School Clinics and Welfare Services

These are held at Eccleshall Methodist School Room, St. Michael's Hall, Stone, Walton Community Centre and at Blythe Bridge.

Clinics are held at the following times:-

Infant Welfare Centre, Eccleshall Methodist School	: Weekly	: Friday Mornings.
" " " St. Michael's Hall, Stone	: "	: Thurs. afternoons
" " " Walton Community Centre	: "	: Wed. afternoons.
" " " Blythe Bridge	: "	: Mon. afternoons.
School Clinic, Eccleshall Methodist School	: Fortnightly	: Friday Mornings.
" " St. Michael's Hall, Stone	: Fortnightly	: Thursday Mornings.

Programmes of vaccination and immunisation of children and adults against poliomyelitis, whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria and also smallpox are carried out in accordance with recommended Ministry of Health schedules.

The Staffordshire County Council also provide specialised clinics where defects of speech, vision and hearing and allied conditions can be treated when these are referred following school medical examinations, and by general practitioners, health visitors and others.

The school dental clinic for the area was held daily in Stone in the Kitchener Institute.

Health Visiting

The District Nurses in the district are responsible for health visiting and attend all sessions and consultant clinics, following up all cases as necessary by visits to the home and co-operate with the Public Health Department where housing problems arise.

Tuberculosis Services

A tuberculosis clinic is held at Stafford General Infirmary to which patients in the Rural District Travel. A tuberculosis health visitor is employed by the County Council operating part-time in the area, visiting in the home where appropriate.

Laboratory Service

Specimens of milk, water and sewage effluent samples, together with suspected unsound foods are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Stafford for examination. Chemical analyses are performed by the County Analyst.

Ambulance Service

The ambulance service is provided from Stone Ambulance Station in conjunction with the Stafford Ambulance Station.

Meals-on-Wheels

The National Assistance Act, 1948 (Amended Act, 1962) gave Local Authorities extended powers in the establishment and maintenance of Meals-on-Wheels services. A Meals-on-Wheels service is in operation in the Eccleshall area which is operated by the W.V.S., the meals being prepared in the catering department of the Drake Hall Prison. This service provides about twenty-four people with two meals per week on two days of the week, at a cost of one shilling per head per day, the balance being provided by the Rural District Council and the County Council.

The importance of the service lies not only in the nutritional value of the meals but in the regular visits which can help to alleviate the difficulties associated with old age and which can give help when this may be needed.

During 1964 efforts were made to extend the service to other parts of the Rural District, but it was not possible to establish a round of persons living within practical distance of each other so as to make up a workable distribution

Atmospheric Pollution

Regular measurements of the rate of deposition of dust and sulphur dioxide production commenced in the Rural District by the setting up of instruments in the Meaford-Barlaston area. The instruments, consisting of deposit gauges and lead peroxide candles are maintained by the Rural District Council and specimens are sent for analysis by the County Council Analyst. The results are forwarded to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Laboratory where they are collated and published as part of a national survey.

In 1954 a report on atmospheric pollution was compiled by the Medical Officer of Health at that time - Dr. C. G. Owen with particular reference to the Meaford area where a coal-fired power station was in operation. A study of the results of five years readings showed that levels of pollution conformed with standards which were suggested by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research as being acceptable for a rural area. In 1964 with a further ten years readings for comparison, and allowing for an increase in generating capacity in 1956, satisfactory levels were maintained.

The 1954 report refers to several other contributory factors, namely the proximity of railways, industries and domestic pollution which would be likely to influence the results in equal or greater measure.

In 1964 preparations were in hand for the establishment of a further set of instruments to measure the pollution in a typical rural area at Eccleshall as part of a County Survey. The instruments were to measure levels of sulphur dioxide by the Volumetric Method. A series of results would not be available for comparison for sometime, but it is probable that any pollution measured would be predominately of domestic origin in this situation.

In recent years the recognition in industry of the value of efficient combustion has now placed emphasis on domestic sources as a major cause of atmospheric pollution. Pollution from domestic chimneys will often exceed that due to industry by up to two and a half times. With the establishment of modern high density estates of up to twelve houses per acre, low pitched roofs and low chimney levels, the requirement for clean air zones becomes more urgent. The establishment of clean air zones is facilitated in new housing with the universal demand for modern central heating systems and the absence of the cost of conversions as required in older houses, the implementation of which at a later stage of clean air zones is inevitably a more costly and difficult procedure.

Reference to the tables showing the causes of death demonstrates the considerable proportion of diseases of the respiratory system, much of which would be avoidable by the application of clean air measures. Attention to ensure a clean air environment (where the deleterious effects of pollution on health are readily demonstrable) merits the same precautions and high standards as are applied to water supplies.

B. GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	61,299
Population (Registrar General Return)	18,950
Number of inhabited houses and flats	5,236
Population density per house	3.6
Rateable value	£767,492
Sum represented by a penny rate	£3,013

INDUSTRIES

Pottery	Electricity Generating Station
Domestic Electrical Appliances	Agricultural Engineering
Corn Milling	Farming

C. GENERAL HEALTH IN THE AREA INCLUDING VITAL STATISTICS

These statics give in the form of tables, details of births and deaths and other various rates which are compared with those for England and Wales. Being based on a smaller population, the individual examples are more subject to variation than where larger populations are involved, and interpretation can be misleading unless this is taken into account.

The infant mortality rate (the number of infants who died before attaining their first birthday) for the district at 16.07 (England and Wales 20.0) is lower than usual and should be compared with the figures for 1961-65 which are 27.6, 33, 34, 20.5, 19.1, respectively, with an average for the five years of 25.84. The total numbers are however, rather small to form definite conclusions.

Table No. 1

	Live Births.	Still Births.	Deaths of Infants under one year of age.	Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age.	Deaths of Infants under one week of age.
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Legitimate.	158 134	1 1	3 2	3 1	2 1
Illigitimate.	13 6	- -	- -	- -	- -
Total	171 140	1 1	3 2	3 1	2 1

Table No. 2 BIRTH AND DEATH RATE

Comparability Factors.	Births 0.95	Deaths 1.12
	<u>Stone R.D.</u>	<u>Eng. & Wales.</u>
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 polulation.	16.42	18.4
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population adjusted.	15.59	--
Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births.	6.39	16.4
Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.02	11.3
Death rate per 1,000 population adjusted.	11.23	--
Death Rate for infants under one year per 1,000 Live Births.	16.07	20.0
Death Rate for infants under four weeks per 1,000 Live Births.	12.86	13.8
Death Rate for infants under one week of age per 1,000 total Live and Still Births.	9.585	28.2

Table No. 3

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total	1963
1. Tuberculosis.- Respiratory.	-	-	-	1
2. Tuberculosis.- Other.	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease.	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections.	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-	-
8. Measles.	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and Parasitic Diseases.	1	-	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach.	1	-	1	4
11. Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus.	4	1	5	7
12. Malignant Neoplasm - Breast.	-	5	5	6
13. Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus.	-	1	1	-
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	9	15	24	14
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	2	2	4	-
16. Diabetes.	-	-	-	2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	21	17	38	32
18. Coronary Disease, Angina..	16	8	24	28
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease.	1	-	1	2
20. Other Heart Disease.	10	12	22	24
21. Other Circulatory Disease.	2	6	8	9
22. Influenza.	1	-	1	-
23. Pneumonia.	7	3	10	10
24. Bronchitis.	6	8	14	7
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	2	-	2	2
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	-	1	1	-
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	-	1	1	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	-	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	2	-	2	1
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	-	1	1	-
31. Congenital Malformations.	2	2	4	4
32. Other defined and Ill-defined Diseases.	9	6	15	18
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents.	-	2	2	3
34. All other accidents.	2	1	3	3
35. Suicide.	-	-	-	3
36. Homicide and Operations of War.	-	-	-	-
TOTALS -----	98	92	190	182

Table No. 4

<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
On Register at 31st December, 1963.	22	6	3	5
New cases notified or transferred in during 1964.	3	2	-	-
Deaths during 1964.	-	-	-	-
Removed from Register on transfer out or recovery during 1964.	4	3	-	-
Total remaining on Register at 31st December, 1964.	21	5	3	5

Table No. 5

Number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register for the District at the end
of the last four years

<u>Year</u>	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
1960	19	12	3	4	38
1961	20	12	3	4	39
1962	20	9	3	5	37
1963	22	6	3	5	36
1964	21	5	3	5	34

Table No. 6

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and notifiable diseases sent in by Medical Practitioners during the year 1964.

DISEASE	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total 1964	Total 1963
Scarlet Fever	18	16	-	-	34	3
Whooping Cough	3	-	-	-	3	1
Measles	15	15	19	38	87	138
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	1	-	-	-	1	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis, Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	-	-	-	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	2	2	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-

FOOD POISONING

No. of Outbreaks	No. of Cases Notified	Actual No. of Cases	No. of Deaths	Organisms or other Agents responsible with number of out- breaks of each	Food involved with number of outbreaks of each
1	2	2	Nil	Salmonella Heidelberg.	Not known

REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
ON THE
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE AREA

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Water Supplies

Sharpley Heath, Milwich, Coton etc. Water Supply.

Work on the supply of mains water to this area was completed during the year. A considerable amount of pressure was necessary to ensure that as many farm premises as possible would take advantage of the new supply.

Sandon Water Supply

Since the completion of the water supply scheme 36 farms and dwelling houses have been connected to this supply. This figure represents a 37% of the total possible number of properties which can be connected at a reasonable expense.

The following samples of water were taken during the year for bacteriological and chemical analysis:-

<u>Bacteriological</u>					<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Well	...	...	...	...	4	14
Spring	...	...	...	...	Nil	1
Borehole	...	...	...	...	Nil	1
Main	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Total					4	16

Chemical

Well	...	...	...	...	15	5
Spring	...	...	...	...	1	Nil
Borehole	...	...	...	...	1	Nil
Main	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Total					17	5

In all cases unsatisfactory samples were followed up, and where only minor bacterial contamination existed the owners were instructed to carry out cleansing of the well. In one case a purification unit was provided, and in two others, cottages were demolished. Where possible premises were connected to the mains supply of water.

In addition, four samples were taken from Trentham Swimming Pool and proved satisfactory.

SEWERAGE

Barlaston Parish

Work was carried out to construct a storm relief sewer off the Barlaston main outfall sewer. Minor modifications in Broughton Crescent are under review.

Rough Close. A scheme has been prepared to by-pass the Rough Close Sewage Works and to leave there only storm overflow tanks, but final agreement has yet to be reached between the City of Stoke-on-Trent and Messrs. J. Wedgwood with regard to satisfactory terms for treatment and conveyance. Work was carried out to clear the water course carrying effluent from the Rough Close works.

Cocknage Extension. This scheme to serve thirteen of the County Council owned small holdings was completed.

Chebsey Parish

Consideration of the proposals to provide a small scheme for the village of Shallowford was re-opened, and some progress on the scheme was made.

Eccleshall Parish

Stafford Road Extension. A scheme was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the extension of the system to serve properties on the north side of Stafford Road. This was subsequently approved and work commenced.

Fulford Parish

Fulford, Moss Gate and Cross Gate. A scheme was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government amounting to £38,000. Approval is now awaited.

Hilderstone Parish

Hilderstone. Plans and sections are now in course of progress.

Milwich Parish

Milwich. Proposals are under consideration for the sewerage of the village of Milwich.

Sandon Parish

Sandon. Work was completed to the new disposal work and sewerage scheme.

Swynnerton Parish

Royal Ordnance Factory Works. These works were taken over as from 1st October, 1964. Modifications are now under consideration for the scaling down of the operational working capacity.

Winghouse Lane. A small extension was carried out to serve properties on septic tanks.

Public Cleansing

Refuse Collection and Disposal. During the first half of the year an additional compressmore vehicle was brought into operation, and this together with the one remaining 10 cu. yd. Fordson enabled us to maintain the service to an increasing number of properties.

In January tipping was commenced on the large area of land on the old Ordnance Factory Site. This enabled tipping at Spot Acre and Moddershall to be concluded. Cranberry tip is still in full use.

Night Soil Collection. The collection of night soil has continued to decrease, partly due to the sewer extensions carried out and partly due to the improvement grant scheme.

The Council are still operating a free annual service for domestic septic tanks, and due to the greatly increased number of tanks now requiring attention the vehicles have worked under constant pressure during the whole year.

HOUSING

A. Repair - Housing and Public Health Acts

1. Total number of houses repaired in consequence of informal action (all Acts)	26
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Section 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1957

2. Number of notices served: Informal - Nil, Formal - Nil.	
3. Number of houses rendered fit after service of notices:-	
a) By owner	Nil
b) By Local Authority	Nil

B. Beyond Repair - Housing Act, 1957

1. Number of undertakings accepted	4
2. Number of Closing Orders made	1
3. Number of Demolition Orders made	18
4. Number of houses demolished following Demolition Orders ...	15

C. Clearance Areas

1. Number of areas represented during the year	Nil
2. Action taken during the year:-	
(i) Houses demolished by Local Authority or owners:-	
a) Unfit	16
b) Others	Nil
(ii) Numbers displaced:-	
a) Individuals	26
b) Families	8

D. Improvement Grants

1. Standard Grants:-	
(i) Number of applications:-	
a) owner/occupiers - 2. Approved - 2.	
b) tenanted houses - Nil.	
(ii) Number of dwellings improved:-	
a) owner/occupiers - 2.	
b) tenanted - Nil.	
(iii) Amount paid in grant	£305
2. Discretionary Grants:-	
(i) Number of applications approved	20
(ii) Number of applications refused	1
(iii) Amount paid in grant	£5,140
(iv) Number of dwellings improved:-	
a) owner/occupiers - 12	
b) tenanted - 8	

E. Rent Act, 1957

Applications for Certificate of Disrepair	Nil
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General

Number of houses erected during the year:-

1. By Local Authority	6
2. By private enterprise	129
					Total	<u>135</u>

Number of Council owned dwellings at 31st December, 1964:-

1. Erected up to 1940	...	...	...	...	...	93
2. Erected between 1947 and 1963	...	...	...	...	...	876
						40
3. Erected during 1964	...	...	...	...	...	6
4. Purchased from private owners	...	...	...	...	...	7
					Total	<u>1,022</u>

Slum Clearance

As shown in Table C, 2 houses were demolished in Horsefair and 14 houses in High Street, Eccleshall, the latter to make way for housing development and Welfare Unit accommodation. Work on this scheme for the provision of 10 houses on the back land and 31 units of accommodation including a warden's flat in the Welfare Unit, progressed very satisfactorily.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat Inspection

The following table gives details of meat inspected at the three private slaughterhouses during the year 1964.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	495	4	61	3,180	441
Number Inspected	495	4	61	3,180	441
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	1	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	103	-	-	759	21
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	20.8%	-	1.6%	23.9%	4.7%
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	0.68%
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned.	5	-	-	-	-
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	5	-	-	-	-

Compared with the meat inspection figures in 1963 there has been a general decrease in the number of animals killed during the year, and in consequence there has been a decrease in the amount of meat condemned. Regular meat inspection is carried out and all meat killed in the slaughterhouses is inspected as soon after slaughter as possible. Most of this work is carried out during normal office hours.

Weight of meat condemned:-

1) Tuberculosis.....	93 lbs.
2) Other diseases or conditions	2,323 lbs.
Total	<u>2,416 lbs.</u>

The tuberculosis referred to above was found in pigs heads, and was of the avian variety. No tuberculosis was found in cattle.

Five beasts were affected with cysticercus bovis. The site organ was condemned and the carcase and remaining offal were consigned to cold store.

The condemned meat at the slaughterhouses and butchers' premises was disposed of by the butchers to manufacturers of animal by-products in accordance with the Meat (Staining and Sterilising) Regulations, 1960.

Three slaughterhouses and one knackers yard were licensed during the year. Twelve men were licensed to stun and slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. A detailed inspection of the slaughterhouses is carried out from time to time in order to ensure that as high a standard of hygiene as possible is observed.

Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises and Food Shops.

The number and types of food businesses carried on in the Stone Rural District are as follows:-

Butchers.....	8
General Provisions.....	42
Bread, cakes and sugar confectionary.....	5
Catering.....	12
Greengrocery.....	4
Baking and bread etc.....	2
Public houses.....	42
Factory canteens.....	4
Clubs.....	10

Inspections were carried out during the year to ensure that the requirements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 were being complied with. Byelaws relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food are in operation in the district and are administered in conjunction with the above Regulations.

The following amount of food other than butchers' meat was found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered by the owners:-

Cooked meat and meat products.....	80 lbs.
Fruit and Vegetables.....	6 lbs.

One complaint was received of a caterpillar in frozen food. The complaint was investigated and no action taken.

Manufactured Food. Six butchers' premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the preparation and manufacture of sausage and pressed meat intended for sale for human consumption. These premises are kept in a satisfactory manner.

Ice Cream. There are now 63 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream in the area, of these only 56 are at present retailing.

Five samples were taken during the year and were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all were found to be Grade I.

Milk Sampling

Routine sampling of milk is undertaken by the Sampling Officers of the Staffordshire County Council.

The following samples were taken:-

Bacteriological examination.....	317
Biological test for tuberculosis.....	71

All the samples tested for tuberculosis proved negative and of the 317 submitted for bacteriological examination 21 failed the test.

No notices were received during the year with regard to Brucella Abortus.

Food Poisoning

In the last quarter of the year two cases of food poisoning were reported in young people who had returned from school holidays abroad. One of these proved to be extremely persistent and regular sampling entailed additional work in the Department.

Typhoid Fever

During the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak information was received from the Ministry of Health relating to corned beef from particular processing plants. This necessitated all food shops selling corned beef being contacted on several occasions, and in several cases corned beef was withdrawn from sale.

Diseases of Animals

During the year 42 notifications of suspected Anthrax were received but all were subsequently withdrawn.

Notification was received of calves affected with Salmonella Typhimurium and tests were carried out on the handlers to ascertain whether or not the infection had been passed on.

GENERAL

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948

Number on Register 44
Number of inspections for all purposes 12

All the factories are mechanically powered. It was not found necessary to serve any notices during the year.

Outworkers

Notification was received of two outworkers employed in the district, both in clothing manufacture. The homes were visited and conditions found to be satisfactory.

Shops Act, 1912-1950

Due to pressure of other work only a limited amount of work was possible in this direction. Visits were made in connection with late closing hours and request made for the display of notices with regard to Early Closing Day.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The main part of this Act came into force during 1964 placing on local authorities the responsibility of ensuring the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in offices and shops.

The Act also required the registration of certain premises with the local authority, and from returns received it would appear that there were 72 premises to which the Act applied, employing a total of 307 persons.

It was not possible to commence the work of general inspection during the year.

Petroleum Acts

Sixty-seven licences were issued during the year for the storage of 87,335 gallons of petroleum spirit. In addition two licences were issued for the storage of 5,100 gallons of petroleum mixtures.

Cinematograph Acts, 1909-1952

Theatres Act, 1843

Licences were issued during 1964. Visits and inspections were made in conjunction with the Staffordshire County Fire Service to ensure that the premises were satisfactory from the point of view of lighting, seating, sanitary accommodation and means of escape in case of fire.

Rodent Control

The Council continue to employ a full time Rodent Operative whose work in the district is divided into the following categories:-

Council Sites. These include the Council's refuse tips at Spot Acre, Moddershall, Cranberry, Eccleshall and Swynnerton and Sewage Disposal Works at Eccleshall, Oulton, Rough Close, Offley Hay, Wetwood and Norton Bridge, all of which have been visited regularly and infestations kept to a minimum.

Council Houses. A few Council house sites have been visited mainly for small infestations of rats in hedge banks and were dealt with accordingly.

Business Premises. These include such places as Standon Orthopaedic Hospital, Yarnfield Hospital, Ivyhouse and Hayes Mills, Longton Road, Stone, a scrap yard at Little Stoke, Tittensor Manor and The "Cafe Monica" and Meaford Power Station. Contracts were in operation in respect of the two mills.

Private Properties. During the year a number of private properties have been visited both for the clearance of rats and mice and were dealt with successfully.

Farms. A contract scheme is in operation for farms and this enables farmers to avail themselves of a twelve monthly service for the clearance of rats and mice. About 22 farms were dealt with in this way during the year.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

Three premises were registered during the year for the boarding of dogs. Inspections were carried out to ensure that the premises were kept in a satisfactory condition.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

No licences were issued under this Act.

Rag Flock and Other Materials Act, 1950

There are no premises registered under this Act.



